



**FLORIDA
ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY**

COURSE CHANGE REQUEST Undergraduate Programs

Department Philosophy
College Arts and Letters

UUPC Approval _____
UFS Approval _____
SCNS Submittal _____
Confirmed _____
Banner Posted _____
Catalog _____

Current Course Prefix and Number PHI 4800

Current Course Title Aesthetics and Art Theory

Syllabus must be attached for ANY changes to current course details. See [Template](#). Please consult and list departments that may be affected by the changes; attach documentation.

Change title to:

Change description to:

Change prefix

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change course number

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change credits*

From: 4 **To:** 3

Change grading

From: _____ **To:** _____

Change WAC/Gordon Rule status**

Add Remove

Change General Education Requirements***

Add Remove

*See [Definition of a Credit Hour](#).

**WAC/Gordon Rule criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See [WAC Guidelines](#).

***GE criteria must be indicated in syllabus and approval attached to this form. See [Intellectual Foundations Guidelines](#).

Change prerequisites/minimum grades to:

Change corequisites to:

Change registration controls to:

Please list existing and new pre/corequisites, specify AND or OR and include minimum passing grade (default is D-).

Effective Term/Year for Changes: Fall 2024

Terminate course? Effective Term/Year for Termination:

Faculty Contact/Email/Phone Nicholas Baima, NBaima@fau.edu, 319-504-2404

Approved by

Department Chair Nicholas R. Baima
College Curriculum Chair [Signature]
College Dean [Signature]
UUPC Chair Korey Sorge
Undergraduate Studies Dean Dan Meeroff
UFS President _____
Provost _____

Date

1/10/2024
5 FEB 2024
2/8/24
2/26/24
2/26/24

Email this form and syllabus to mjenning@fau.edu seven business days before the UUPC meeting.

PHI 4800: AESTHETICS AND ART THEORY

Section: 001
Semester: Spring 2024
Credit Hours: 3

Instructor's Name: Dr. James Simpson

Office Hours: Wednesday, 11: 00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. over Zoom. The Zoom link will be provided on the Canvas course page.

Email: jamesimpson@fau.edu

COURSE PREREQUISITES / CO-REQUISITES

ENC 1101 and 1102

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES

PHI 4800 provides the student with a greater understanding of the arts in personal life and society through knowledge of art theory and philosophical views of the arts. The main topics discussed will be the nature of art; form, representation, and expression in art; criticism of the arts; and aesthetic experience and value.

This course aims to acquaint you with the philosophical implications of how we describe and evaluate artworks, to show you the importance of aesthetics for contemporary philosophy and art theory, to encourage you to reflect critically on aesthetic experience, and to demonstrate the importance of the arts in society.

COURSE DELIVERY MODE

Online course. Lecture: Tuesday and Thursday, 4:00 P.M. – 5:50 P.M. All classes will be over Zoom. The Zoom link for lectures will be posted on the course Canvas page under Zoom.

REQUIRED TEXTS & MATERIALS

All assigned readings will be made available on Canvas under Files.

COURSE ASSESSMENTS, ASSIGNMENTS, & GRADING POLICY

1. Personal Reflection on Art: 20%

- 1000 words.
- Due 3/17

2. Test: 20% each; 40% total

- Tests will require you to understand and explain concepts that you have learned about and relationships between different ideas in the reading.
- Test 1 will be assigned 2/19 and due 2/25 by 11:59 pm (you can take it whenever you want in this time period)
- Test 2 will be assigned 4/15 and due 4/21 by 11:59 pm

3. Argumentative Essay: 1 final thesis-driven paper worth 25%, 1 rough draft 15% (40% total)

- 1000 words (though length does not matter as much as the content)
- Paper rubric will be posted separately.
- Paper rough draft due 3/31
- Final paper due 4/26

GRADE SCALE

Grade	Total (%)
A	93 – 100
A-	90 – 92
B+	87 – 89
B	82 – 86
B-	80 – 81
C+	77 – 79
C	72 – 76
C-	70 – 71
D+	67 – 69
D	62 – 66

Grade	Total (%)
D-	60 – 61
F	59 – 0

SCHEDULING AND DUE DATES

Week	DATE	TOPIC	READ	TO DO
1	1/8-1/14	Introduction to Aesthetics and Art Theory.	Nanay 'Lost in a museum'; Freeland 'Blood and beauty'.	Syllabus quiz.
2	1/16-21	Identifying Art.	Beardsley 'An aesthetic definition of art'; Scruton 'What is art?' (short video)	Read
3	1/22-28	Ontology of Art	Margolis 'The ontological peculiarity of works of art'; Nanay 'Sex, drugs, and rock n' roll'	Read
4	1/29-2/4	Aesthetic Properties	Pettit 'The possibility of aesthetic realism'; Walton 'Categories of art'	Read
5	2/5-2/11	Intention and Interpretation	Beardsley 'Intentions and interpretations: A fallacy revived'; Stecker 'The constructivist's dilemma'	Read
6	2/12-18	Values of Art	Strawson 'Aesthetic appraisal and works of art'; Gaut 'The ethical criticism of art'	Read.
7	2/19-2/25	Test Week/Review for Test 1	Review study guide	Test 1 due Sunday 2/25
8	2/26-3/2	Pictorial Art	Walton 'Are representations symbols?'; Scruton 'Photography and representation'	Read

9	Spring Break	No class		
11	3/11-17	Music	Scruton 'Understanding music'; Davies 'Rock versus classical music'	Personal Reflection due by 3/17
12	3/18-24	Aesthetics of Nature	Budd 'The aesthetic appreciation of nature'	Read
13	3/25-31	Film. Writing workshop	Carroll 'The power of movies'; Pryor 'A brief guide to writing a philosophy paper'	Rough draft due by 3/31
14	4/1-7	Nature of film.	Walton 'Film, photography, and transparency'; Ponech 'Non-fictional cinematic artworks and knowledge'	Read
15	4/8-14	Film and emotions, and what we can learn from film.	Carroll 'The paradox of horror'; Freeland 'Realist horror'	Read
14	4/15-21	Test week/Review for Test 2	Review study guide	Test 2 due Sunday 4/21
15	4/22-28	Writing week. Final paper	No reading	Final paper due by 4/26

COURSE POLICIES

LATE WORK POLICY

Late weekly work, late tests, and late papers will not be accepted, for any reason other than documented medical excuses. It is your responsibility to ensure that you leave yourself enough time to do the work. Do not ask to turn in late work at the end of the semester if you realize you are going to fail the course. The answer is no.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY STATEMENT

Students at Florida Atlantic University should endeavor to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty is a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive to the university community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see [University Regulation 4.001](#)

PLAGIARISM

[Plagiarism](#) is the deliberate use and appropriation of another's work without identifying the source and trying to pass off such work as one's own. Any student who fails to give full credit for ideas or materials taken from another has plagiarized. This includes all discussion board posts, journal entries, wikis, and other written and oral presentation assignments. Plagiarism is unacceptable in the University community. Academic work must be an original work of your own thought, research, or self-expression. When students borrow ideas, wording, or organization from another source, they must acknowledge that fact in an appropriate manner. If in doubt, cite your source. **One instance of plagiarism will result in an automatic 0 on that assignment, with no possibility to make up that assignment grade. Further instances of plagiarism will result in course failure and being reported for academic dishonesty.**

Plagiarism includes:

- Copying passages from a source that you did not write yourself without using quotation marks and including a citation
- Closely paraphrasing from a source that you did not write yourself (i.e. if you change a few words it is still plagiarism)
- Turning in work you have turned in for any course other than this one
- Paying someone to write a paper for you
- Paying someone to “help” you write a paper and you don’t actually write it yourself
- Collaborating with other students on the test (this includes sharing “study guides”)
- Asking internet forums for answers to questions and then copy and pasting those answers into work that you turn in

ONLINE ATTENDANCE POLICY

Since the course is online, you should also access the course **at least three times per week (3x/week)** to ensure you do not miss pertinent postings, messages, or announcements. It is imperative that you meet course deadlines and stay active in the class. If you are experiencing major illness, absences due to University duties, or other large-scale issues, contact the instructor immediately to formulate a resolution. Emergencies will be dealt with on an individual basis.

NETIQUETTE

Due to the casual communication common in the online environment, students are sometimes tempted to relax their grammar, spelling, and/or professionalism. Please remember that you are adults and professionals and that your communication should match these roles. For more in-depth information, please see the [FAU statement on netiquette](#). Please also see this helpful guide, [Etiquette Tips for Emailing Your Professor](#).

CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE/DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY STATEMENT

Disruptive behavior is defined in the FAU Student Code of Conduct as “... activities which interfere with the educational mission within classroom.” Students who disrupt the educational experiences of other students and/or the instructor’s course objectives in a face-to-face or online course are subject to disciplinary action. Such behavior impedes students’ ability to learn or an instructor’s ability to teach. Disruptive behavior may include, but is not limited to non-approved use of electronic devices (including cellular telephones); cursing or shouting at others in such a way as to be disruptive; or, other violations of an instructor’s expectations for classroom conduct.

For more information, please see the [FAU Office of Student Conduct](#).

INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

University policy states that a student who is passing a course, but has not completed all work due to exceptional circumstances, may, with consent of the instructor, temporarily receive a grade of incomplete (“I”). The assignment of the “I” grade is at the discretion of the instructor, but is allowed only if the student is passing the course.

TIME COMMITMENT PER CREDIT HOUR

This course has three credit hours. For traditionally delivered courses, not less than one (1) hour of classroom or direct faculty instruction each week is expected for fifteen (15) weeks per Fall or Spring semester, and a minimum of two (2) hours of out-of-class student work for each credit hour. Equivalent time and effort is required for Summer Semesters, which usually have a shortened timeframe. Fully Online courses, hybrid, shortened, intensive format courses, and other non-traditional modes of delivery will demonstrate equivalent time and effort.

MINIMUM TECHNOLOGY & COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

Hardware & Software Requirements*

Hardware

- Dependable computer (see below)
- Computer speakers
- Camera

Software

- [Microsoft 365 Suite](#)
- Reliable web browser (recommended [Chrome](#) or [Firefox](#))
- Canvas mobile app: Download instructions for [iOS device](#) or [Android device](#)
- [Adobe Reader](#)
- [Adobe Flash Player](#)

Internet Connection

- Recommended: Broadband Internet connection with a speed of 4 Mbps or higher.
- To function properly, Canvas requires a high-speed Internet connection (cable modem, DSL, satellite broadband, T1, etc.). The minimum Internet connection speed to access Canvas is a consistent 1.5 Mbps (megabits per second) or higher.
- [Check your Internet speed here.](#)

*Please note that if you do not own a dependable computer with the required hardware/software you may use one in a FAU computer lab.

COMPUTER REQUIREMENTS

Basic Computer Specifications for Canvas

- Operating system: Windows 10 or macOS Sierra (or higher).
- [Specifications](#)

Peripherals

- A backup option should be available to minimize the loss of work. This backup can be an external hard drive, a USB drive, cloud storage, or your folder on the FAU servers.

Software

- Once logged in to Canvas make sure your Internet browser is compatible.

- Other software may be required for specific learning modules. If so, the necessary links to download and install will be provided within the applicable module.

MINIMUM TECHNICAL SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

The general and course-specific technical skills you must have to succeed in the course include but are not limited to:

- Accessing Internet.
- Using Canvas (including taking tests, attaching documents, etc.).
- Using email with attachments.
- Creating and submitting files in commonly used word processing program formats such as Microsoft Office Tools.
- Copying and pasting functions.
- Downloading and installing software.
- Using presentation, graphics, and other programs.
- Posting and commenting in an online discussion.
- Searching the FAU library and websites.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

In the online environment, technical issues are always possible (e.g., lost connection, hardware or software failure). Many of these can be resolved relatively quickly, but if you wait until the last minute before due dates, the chances of these glitches affecting your success are greatly increased. Please plan appropriately. If a problem occurs, it is essential you take immediate action to document the issue so your instructor can verify and take appropriate action to resolve the problem. Most issues in Canvas can be resolved by clicking on the “Help” tab located on the menu bar.

When a problem occurs, click “Help” to:

- Report a Problem
- Live Chat with Canvas Support
- Search Canvas Guides

Additional Technical Support

1. Contact the eLearning Success Advisor for assistance: 561-297-3590
2. If you can, make a Print Screen of the monitor when the problem occurs. Save the Print Screen as a .jpg file. If you are unfamiliar with creating a Print Screen file, see [Print Screen instructions](#).

3. Complete a [Help Desk ticket](#). Make sure you complete the form entirely and give a full description of your problem so the Help Desk staff will have the pertinent information in order to assist you properly. This includes:
 - a. Select “Canvas (Student)” for the Ticket Type.
 - b. Input the Course ID.
 - c. In the Summary/Additional Details section, include your operating system, Internet browser, and Internet service provider (ISP).
 - d. Attach the Print Screen file, if available.
4. Send a message within Canvas to your instructor to notify him/her of the problem. Include all pertinent information of the incident (3b-d above).
5. If you do not have access to Canvas, send an email to your instructor with all pertinent information of the incident (3b-d above).
6. If you do not have access to a computer, call your instructor with all pertinent information of the incident. If he/she is not available, make sure you leave a detailed message.
7. If you do not hear back from the Help Desk or your instructor within a timely manner (48 hours), it is your responsibility to follow up with the appropriate person until you obtain a resolution.

COMMUNICATION POLICY

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS

Announcements

You are responsible for reading all announcements posted by the instructor. Check the course announcements each time you log in.

Email/Video Conferencing

You are responsible for reading all of your course email and responding in a timely manner.

INSTRUCTOR’S PLAN FOR CLASSROOM RESPONSE TIME & FEEDBACK

Email/Video Conferencing Policy

Except for weekends and holidays, the instructor will typically respond to email (Canvas inbox or FAU email) within 48 hours.

Electronic Communication Policy

In addition to the University's policy, please consider the following:

- Privacy, confidentiality, and security in all electronic communications.
- All electronic communication resources must be used for the course and in alignment with to the University mission.
- Prohibited use of false identity, false identity pseudonyms, or anonymous (sender's name or electronic identification is hidden).
- Access without consent.
- Disruption of services including introducing computer contaminants (viruses).
- Harassment of any kind.

Please see the Office of Information Technology's policies on [Cyber Security Awareness](#).

SUPPORT SERVICES & ONLINE RESOURCES

- [Center for eLearning and Student Success](#)
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#)
- [FAU Libraries](#)
- [Freshmen Academic Advising Services](#)
- [Math Learning Center](#)
- [Office of Information Technology Helpdesk](#)
- [Office of International Programs and Study Abroad](#)
- [Office of Undergraduate Research and Inquiry](#)
- [Student Accessibility Services](#)
- [University Center for Excellence in Writing](#)

FACULTY RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

Florida Atlantic University respects the rights of instructors to teach and students to learn. Maintenance of these rights requires classroom conditions that do not impede their exercise.

To ensure these rights, faculty members have the prerogative to:

- Establish and implement academic standards.
- Establish and enforce reasonable behavior standards in each class.
- Recommend disciplinary action for students whose behavior may be judged as disruptive under the *Student Code of Conduct*.

SELECTED UNIVERSITY & COLLEGE POLICIES

ACCESSIBILITY POLICY STATEMENT

In compliance with the **Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments (ADAAA)**, students who require special accommodations to properly execute coursework due to a disability, must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) located in the Boca Raton, Davie, and Jupiter campuses and follow all SAS procedures. For additional information, please consult [Student Accessibility Services](#).

Contact

- **Boca Raton:** (561) 297-3880
Fax: (561) 297-2184, TTY: 711
- **Davie:** (954) 236-1222
Fax: (954) 236-1123, TTY: 711
- **Jupiter:** (561) 799-8721
Fax: (561) 799-8721, TTY: 711

GRADE APPEAL PROCESS

You may request a review of the final course grade when you believe that one of the following conditions apply:

- There was a computational or recording error in the grading.
- The grading process used non-academic criteria.
- There was a gross violation of the instructor's own grading system.

[Chapter 4 of the University Regulations](#) contains information on the grade appeals process.

RELIGIOUS ACCOMMODATION POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with rules of the Florida Board of Education and Florida law, students have the right to reasonable accommodations from the University in order to observe religious practices and beliefs with regard to admissions, registration, class attendance, and the scheduling of examinations and work assignments. For further information, please see [Academic Policies and Regulations](#).

UNIVERSITY APPROVED ABSENCE POLICY STATEMENT

In accordance with rules of the Florida Atlantic University, students have the right to reasonable accommodations to participate in University approved activities, including athletic or

scholastics teams, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is your responsibility to notify the instructor at least one week prior to missing any course assignment.

DROPS/WITHDRAWALS

You are responsible for completing the process of dropping or withdrawing from a course. Please click on the following link for more information on dropping and/or withdrawing from a course. Please consult the [FAU Registrar Office](#) for more information.

Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center

Life as a university student can be challenging physically, mentally and emotionally. Students who find stress negatively affecting their ability to achieve academic or personal goals may wish to consider utilizing FAU's Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) Center. CAPS provides FAU students a range of services – individual counseling, support meetings, and psychiatric services, to name a few – offered to help improve and maintain emotional well-being. For more information, go to <http://www.fau.edu/counseling/>

Disability Policy

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act (ADAAA), students who require reasonable accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with Student Accessibility Services (SAS) and follow all SAS procedures. SAS has offices across three of FAU's campuses – Boca Raton, Davie and Jupiter – however disability services are available for students on all campuses. For more information, please visit the SAS website at www.fau.edu/sas/.

University Approved Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all of their scheduled University classes and to satisfy all academic objectives as outlined by the instructor. The effect of absences upon grades is determined by the instructor, and the University reserves the right to deal at any time with individual cases of non-attendance. Students are responsible for arranging to make up work missed because of legitimate class absence, such as illness, family emergencies, military obligation, court-imposed legal obligations or participation in University-approved activities. Examples of University-approved reasons for absences include participating on an athletic or scholastic team, musical and theatrical performances and debate activities. It is the student's responsibility to give the instructor notice prior to any anticipated absences and within a reasonable amount of time after an unanticipated absence, ordinarily by the next scheduled class meeting. Instructors must allow each student who is absent for a University-approved reason the opportunity to make up work missed without any reduction in the student's final course grade as a direct result of such absence.

* * *

The instructor reserves the right to revise or adjust this syllabus as necessary.

